

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY: IO:WBBUFFUM:HS

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NEA:AATHERTON

P-MR SISCO

S/S:WHLUERS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL ATLANTA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 080607

EXDIS TOSEC 5

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (CORRECTION TOSEC NUMBER & PARA
NUMBERS)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, IS, LE

SUBJECT: LEBANESE AND SECURITY COUNCIL

FOR SECRETARY FROM SISCO

1. WE CONTINUED NEGOTIATIONS WITH LEBANESE FOREIGN
MINISTER NAFFA THROUGHOUT ENTIRE MORNING. HE WAS ADAMANT
IN REJECTING ANY LANGUAGE WHICH APPEARED TO COVER LEBANESE
RESPONSIBILITY FOR CONTROLLING ACTIVITIES OF FEDAYEEN ON
HER TERRITORY.

2. ON LESS CONTROVERSIAL POINTS, WE AGREED TO CHANGE
"DEPLORES" TO "CONDEMNS" IN PARAS 1 AND 2 (WHILE LEBANON
WANTED TO "CONDEMN" ONLY ISRAELI ACTION, I REJECTED THIS).

3. WE ALSO SAID REFERENCE TO RELEASE OF CIVILIAN PRISONERS
BY ISRAEL WAS ACCEPTABLE BUT EXTRACTED CONCESSION THAT WE
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COULD TELL ISRAEL HER TWO PILOTS IN LEBANESE HANDS WOULD

NOT RPT NOT BE TURNED OVER TO SYRIA AS LATTER IS INSISTING.

4. OUR FINAL PROPOSAL ON MOST CONTROVERSIAL PARA (3), WHICH HE AGREED TO CONSIDER DURING AFTERNOON, WAS MODIFICATION OF PRESENT EUROPEAN TEXT TO READ AS FOLLOWS: "CALLS FOR A CESSATION OF ALL ACTS INVOLVING THE ORGANIZATION WITHIN THE TERRITORY OF ONE STATE OF ACTS OF FORCE AGAINST THE TERRITORY OF ANOTHER STATE." HE WAS HESITANT EVEN TO TAKE THIS UNDER ADVISEMENT LEST IT IMPUTE TO GOVERNMENT OF LEBANON RESPONSIBILITY FOR ELIMINATING ALL TERRORIST ACTIVITY, WHICH IT UNABLE TO DISCHARGE.

5. NAFFA INTIMATED THAT RATHER THAN ACCEPT RESOLUTION WITH SUCH PROVISION IT MIGHT BEHBETTER FOR LEBANON TO HAVE COUNCIL TERMINATE WITH NO RESOLUTION BUT WITH USG ISSUING STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR LEBANESE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY.

6. NAFFA TOLD BUFFUM AT LUNCH HE HAD IMMEDIATELY TRIED OUT FOREGOING LANGUAGE WITH HIS EXPERTS IN NEW YORK WHOSE IMMEDIATE REACTION WAS THAT IT IS UNACCEPTABLE SINCE IT APPEARS TO POINT FINGER SO CLEARLY AT THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT FOR BEARING RESPONSIBILITY OF ELIMINATING ALL TERRORIST ACTIONS AGAINST ISRAEL. HE SAID HE WOULD TRY TO TELEPHONE BEIRUT THIS AFTERNOON AND CONSULT LEBANESE GOVERNMENT ON NEXT STEPS. BUFFUM GOT IMPRESSION NAFFA'S PREFERRED COURSE AT THIS POINT WOULD BE TO LET SESSION END WITHOUT RESOLUTION. OF COURSE, WE CANNOT EXCLUDE POSSIBILITY THAT LEBANON MAY PROMOTE RESOLUTION WHICH IS MORE MODERATE THAN THEIR ORIGINAL TEXT, BUT WHICH WOULD STILL LACK ADEQUATE BALANCE FOR US TO SUPPORT, HOPING WE WOULD MERELY ABSTAIN (RATHER THAN VETO).

7. WE ARE ON CONTINGENCY BASIS PREPARING THE KIND OF STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR LEBANON WHICH MIGHT BE PUT OUT IF THIS WOULD AVOID ADOPTION BY COUNCIL OF ONE-SIDED RESOLUTION. RUSH

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